

234 the milk of buffaloes belonging to the more sacred dairies has
779 a higher degree of sanctity than that churned in the lower
272 grades.

784 The milk of ordinary buffaloes may be drunk by anyone,
man, woman, or child. The Todas do not ordinarily sell
● [433] milk, but if they do so, they may only use the milk of
ordinary buffaloes for this purpose. I have a note that any-
one may also drink the milk of buffaloes belonging to the
tarvali, but I suspect that this only applies to men who must
drink it at the dairy.

The milk of the *kudrpali* may only be drunk by the
kudrpalikartmokh himself. It is believed that any other
person or animal who should drink milk from this dairy
would die.

At the *wursuli* milk may be given to men at the dairy,
but it must be mixed with buttermilk. At the *kugvali* of
Taradr the milk of the *kugvalir* themselves is not drunk by
anyone, the dairyman having certain ordinary buffaloes for
his own use, and this is also the case at the *ti*. I believe that
not even the *palol* would drink the milk of the *persinir*, the
sacred buffaloes of the *ti*.

There is one exception to the rule that ordinary people
may not use the milk of the sacred buffaloes of the village
dairies (except in the form of butter and buttermilk). At the
irpalvusthi ceremony at all the village dairies, including the
kugvali, food is prepared with the milk of one of the sacred
animals and this food is given to the people of the clan to
which the dairy belongs and also to members of other clans.

In the case of the *wursuli*, I was especially told that this
is the only occasion on which the milk of *wursulir* is used
by people in general. At the *kugvali*, people of other clans
are only given this food on the second day of the proceedings,
and the distribution of the food is preceded by a ceremony in
which some of the food is thrown into the fire. The milk
used on this occasion is the milk of the buffalo which has
recently calved, the ceremony being in celebration of this
event.

At the *wursuli* it is noteworthy that the food is cooked by
the *wursol* himself, the ceremony of *irpalvusthi* being the